

Practitioner's Docket No. 113737.7 *PATENT*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Christoph Gebhardt and Harmut Schröder
Serial No.: N/A Group No.: N/A
Filed: herewith Examiner: N/A

For: Method and Device for Cluster Fragmentation

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is a preliminary amendment for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is
[x] a small entity. A statement:
[] is attached.
[x] was already filed.
[] other than a small entity.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail Label No. EL 752413253 US

Date of Deposit: January 18, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Washington, DC 20231.

Jane D. Roberts
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper)

Jane D. Roberts
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

(Amendment Transmittal—page 1 of 3)

10031542 "011802

EXTENSION OF TERM

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply.
(complete (a) or (b), as applicable)

- (a) ☐ Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136
(fees: 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(1)-(4)) for the total number of months checked below:

Extension (months)	Fee for other than <u>small entity</u>	Fee for <u>small entity</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> one month	\$110.00	\$55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> two months	\$390.00	\$195.00
<input type="checkbox"/> three months	\$890.00	\$445.00
<input type="checkbox"/> four months	\$1,390.00	\$695.00
<input type="checkbox"/> five months	\$1,890.00	\$ 945.00

Fee: \$ _____

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

(check and complete the next item, if applicable)

- ☐ An extension for ___ months has already been secured. The fee paid therefor of
\$ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

Extension fee due with this request \$ _____

OR

- (b) ☒ Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)						(Col. 2)		(Col. 3)		SMALL ENTITY	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY					
Claims Remaining After Amendment			Highest No. Previously Paid For		Present Extra		Rate		Addit. Fee		OR		Rate		Addit. Fee	
Total	34	Minus	34	= 0	x \$9 =	\$ 0						x \$18 =	\$			
Indep.	2	Minus	2	=	x \$42	\$ 0						x \$84 =	\$			
[] First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim					+ \$140 =	\$ 0						+ \$280 =	\$			
						Total Addit. Fee	\$ 0	OR			Total Addit. Fee	\$				

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "O" in Col. 3,

** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

*** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

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(complete (c) or (d), as applicable)

- (c) ☒ No additional fee for claims is required.

OR

- (d) ☐ Total additional fee for claims required \$ _____.

FEE PAYMENT

5. ☐ Attached is a check in the sum of \$ _____.
☐ Charge Account No. 50-0436 the sum of \$ _____.
A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

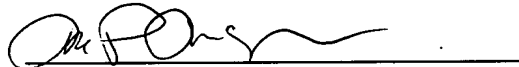
FEE DEFICIENCY

6. ☒ If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Account No. 50-0436.

AND/OR

- ☒ If any additional fee for claims is required, charge Account No. 50-0436.

Reg. No. 46,922



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10034542-011802

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Attorney Docket No. 113737.7

In re application of: Christoph Gebhardt and Hartmut Schröder

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CLUSTER FRAGMENTATION

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to an examination on the merits, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

The following amendments are on the basis of the claims as amended during PCT Chapter II procedure.

Please cancel claims 1 –18 without prejudice or disclaimer

Please Replace Claims 19 –21 as follows:

19. (Amended) A method for operating an ion thruster, wherein the charged particles for implementing the thruster thrust are formed by cluster fragments which are produced by a method according to claim 22.